

**Community Center Commission Minutes  
Regular Meeting February 16, 2022**

8 Simpson Street  
Newtown, CT 06470  
Meeting Room

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMUNITY CENTER COMMITTEE

**Present:** Kinga Walsh, Fred Taylor, Doria Linnetz (remote), Jeff Tousignant, and Jordana Bloom

**Absent:** Cheyanne Wirtz, Bill Manfredonia

**Also Present:** Matt Ariniello, Nancy Doniger, Sadie Gureasko-Moore (remote)

Meeting was called to order at 6:41p.m. by Kinga Walsh.

**Salute to the Flag**

**Public comment** none.

**Recognition of Commission member:** Kinga Walsh thanked Nancy Doniger for the time she served on the commission and all she has done over the past few years.

**Introduction of new Commission Member**

Chair Walsh introduced Jordana Bloom as the newest member of the Commission.

**Approval of Minutes from 1/11/22 Meeting**

Fred Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2022 meeting. Doria Linnetz seconded. All in favor.

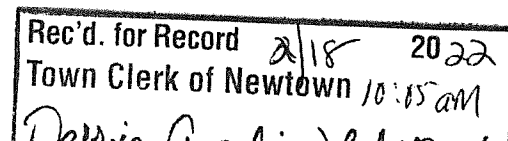
**Financials:**

Mr. Ariniello reported the center is on target to exceed budgeted revenue in membership, aquatic programs, and regular programs. (att.). Large expenses are heat and electricity. Repair and maintenance include shower replacement parts. There is condensation, from the pool, building up in the roof HVAC unit. A new company is looking at this. The café set a record of revenue in February by selling 200 Valentine's Day cookie kits to staff, schools, and center membership.

**Director's Report**

**General Update**

Mr. Ariniello reported the center has been busy as expected in winter months. For the first time ever, all rental option rooms are booked out over the weekends until May; four to six parties a weekend. Swim parties have been popular and there is currently a waitlist for parties. He stated they have restructured some time on the parties to accommodate more. There were 76 new memberships in January, with the largest increase in family memberships. Mr. Ariniello talked about upcoming programs, which can be found on the attached Directors report. Covid restrictions will be lifted for the pancake breakfast, masks are optional and there are three additional tables being set up; more people can be seated at each table. There will be homeschooling programs, for 2 year olds to 12 year olds, on Fridays; there are currently 24 kids registered. There will be music, art, and cooking. The center is still without an aquatics director. The swim participant numbers are high with 139 participants already registered for the spring 2022 session's aquatics programs. Free lifeguarding and WSI courses are being offered as a way to incentivize lifeguard new hires at the center. There is a kayak program on Sunday nights after hours. The highest revenue generating



session to date brought in \$31,266 from 237 participants in aquatics programs including private lessons, regular lessons, kayaking, yoga, and water aerobics. Applications are being accepted for summer camp counselors, CIT's and mentors. The center was awarded a \$7,500 grant for the Race for Chase program, hosting 40 kids. Savings Bank of Danbury awarded \$2,000 to the Friends to assist with scholarships to the center. Mr. Ariniello is working on the Stew Leonard's grant.

**Facility Update:**

Mr. Ariniello reported locker room upgrades have begun; orders for all doors and shower heads have been placed. He is looking into interior tub liners for the showers. The bids for a bathroom with one toilet and one sink to be put in the storage closet in the childcare/after school program activity room is in process and is due to concerns with youngsters having to use the locker room or main hallway restrooms and the need for staff supervision. There is space in the adjacent maintenance room to store the sewage pumps. Mr. Ariniello believes this will be a valuable project as the program numbers continue to grow. The outdoor bathroom is locked during the night due to vandalism. Mr. Ariniello is working on maintenance routines.

**Discussion and possible action on Co-Chair:** This item was tabled until the next meeting.

**Provide ARPA Workgroup Updates**

Kinga Walsh reported she and Mr. Ariniello attended the ARP meeting last night which consisted of two Legislative Council members, two Board of Finance members, one Selectman and First Selectman Rosenthal. They believe the requests fit within the ARP guidelines. Items that would benefit from the funding are a back patio, a spray bay, generator and storage unit. The spray bay will be partially funded by Friends fundraising and would increase revenue and outdoor options, storage that is also needed for pool chemicals, and a generator. Matt Ariniello is working with Fred Hurley, George Benson, and the Fairfield Hills Authority to decide on location options for the storage unit.

The generator for the whole building would also benefit the Senior Center. Ms Bloom also emphasized the benefit to Park & Recreation given they are housed in the building too. Parking, brought up by the workgroup members, is a valid concern but premature at this point.

**Adjourn:** Fred Taylor made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Jordana Bloom seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Marcinek, Clerk pro tem

**Attachments:**

Membership Update

NCC Financials

Directors Report

Newtown Community Center  
 Membership Count – January 2022

Membership Category	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Annual Adult	22	21	20	22	22	17	19	21	21	20	19	20
Annual Family	68	68	72	69	70	69	74	78	77	74	79	80
Annual Senior Couple	22	22	22	22	21	19	19	20	21	21	20	16
Annual Senior	37	36	40	47	47	42	41	49	46	39	37	41
Annual Single Parent Family	9	11	11	11	11	13	14	15	14	13	13	13
Annual Youth/ Teen	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1
Monthly Adult	148	149	152	159	173	161	166	177	179	160	160	166
Monthly Family	642	694	702	722	758	775	799	818	825	822	838	874
Monthly Senior Couple	71	76	76	72	79	83	86	91	91	91	96	98
Monthly Senior	258	265	268	266	280	275	285	313	346	322	328	331
Monthly Single Parent Family	101	104	113	116	129	131	134	139	143	136	143	152
Monthly Youth/ Teen	69	61	64	64	70	64	62	70	62	56	53	55
Volunteer First Responders	8	7	9	10	10	14	14	8	8	9	10	10
Volunteer First Responder Family	8	7	16	18	18	18	24	27	27	28	28	41
Employee Membership	6	6	6	8	9	12	12	12	12	13	13	15
College Membership Special	0	0	1	3	7	3	0	0	0		1	2
Membership Units	1471	1,529	1,575	1,612	1,707	1,699	1,752	1841	1875	1805	1839	1915
Total Members				4,246	4,527	4,689	4,829	4,856	4,974	4,936	5,058	5,254
Scholarships Awarded				4	3	5	3	7	0	1	0	4

Revenues	FY 2022 Budget	Adjusted	Jan Actuals	Actual YTD	FY 2021 FORECAST				Forecast May-June	Forecast 2022
					February	March	April			
FY22 Forecasted										
Federal Grants	0			24,870						0
State grants	0	10,000								37,289
rental income	30,000	30,000	2,872	24,789	3,500	3,000	2,000		4,500	13,500
other grants	0	42,000		13,500						358,402
charges for programs	88,000	208,000	13,936	230,402	18,000	15,000	25,000		65,000	218,615
charges for aquatic programs	160,000	185,000	8,190	134,615	25,000	9,000	20,000		100,000	530,000
membership fees	514,224	530,000	57,075	385,011	57,000	57,000	55,000		3,000	5,000
interest on investments	22,000	5,000		35,933	5,000		800			41,433
misc rev/special events	15,000	33,000								
ncc-childcare	0									
income - café	8,000	8,000	159	2,547	500	400	600		800	4,847
donations	50,000	50,000	1,210	64,571		250	2,500			50,495
scholarships	0								0	
transfers in	0			2,271						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>887,224</b>	<b>1,101,000</b>	<b>83,442</b>	<b>918,509</b>	<b>114,500</b>	<b>68,900</b>	<b>105,000</b>		<b>203,300</b>	<b>1,259,581</b>
GE Donation	1,000,000	1,000,000		1,000,000						1,000,000
<b>TOTAL WITH GE DONATION:</b>	<b>1,887,224</b>	<b>2,101,000</b>		<b>1,918,509</b>						<b>2,259,581</b>
Expenses	FY 2022 Budget	Adjusted	January	Actual YTD	FY 2021 FORECAST				Forecast May-June	Forecast 2022
					February	March	April			
FY21 Forecasted										
Salaries full time	247,643	263,200	17,800	141,190	18,500	18,000	18,000		40,000	235,690
Salaries part time	264,500	282,000	15,785	138,572	20,300	20,300	19,000		40,000	282,000
salaries seasonal**	0			0					0	0
salaries childcare**	0		2,276	42,677	4,511	4,511	4,511		0	42,677
group insurance	54,188	4,487	31,357	4,487	3,500	3,000	3,250		10,000	60,000
ss contributions	39,265	44,000	2,727	25,617	931	931	931		11,000	43,641
retirement contributions	13,000	13,000	946	7,482					7,303	13,000
Special Events			327	17,621						
fees & prof services	1,500	1,500		628						1,500
marketing	4,000	4,000	314	1,707	250	500	650		750	3,857
water/sewers	34,000	40,000		12,781					20,000	40,000
repair & maint services	26,500	26,500	5,454	16,688	3,000	3,000	3,000		12,000	28,688
copier/leasing	4,000	4,000		0					4,000	4,000
contractual services	64,000	79,000	11,458	62,983					26,032	75,000
dues, travel & education	5,000	5,000	155	1,318	150	300	250		3,000	5,000
general supplies	10,000	10,000	17	8,252	600	800	250		1,500	11,384
office supplies	5,750	5,750		1,847	150	150	250		2,000	4,500
program/rec supplies	8,500	10,000	640	7,790	500	500	500		4,976	10,000
pool supplies	20,000	20,000	682	5,021	2,000	500	2,000		9,000	18,000
comm events/special events	13,000	15,000		1,605			10,000		10,000	11,605
childcare/ncc	0								0	0
energy - gas	54,000	54,000	4,276	25,581	5,000	6,000	6,000		23,406	54,000
electric	90,000	90,000	8,004	56,410	8,000	8,000	8,000		17,000	97,410
comm café	0			1,938	350	1,000	250		3,000	8,000
equipment	12,850	9,000		6,800		70,000			9,000	9,000
capital	125,500	125,500							70,000	81,800
credit card fees	25,000	40,000	3,579	24,195	4,000	3,500	5,000		12,500	40,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,122,196</b>	<b>1,195,638</b>	<b>78,927</b>	<b>640,060</b>	<b>71,742</b>	<b>140,992</b>	<b>96,842</b>		<b>336,467</b>	<b>1,182,774</b>

Operating Income / (Loss)	(234,972)	(116,450)	4,516	278,449	42,758	(72,092)	8,158	(133,167)	76,807
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## **Directors Report**

### **February 16th, 2022**

We have seen an increase in membership even with the latest surge. Last month we netted 76 new memberships (the largest increase being family memberships). The week of March 14th, we will be hosting Membership Appreciation week themed "We are so lucky to have you". The week will include activities such as chair massages, classes with childcare, shake your shamrock zumba, hot cocoa bar, lobby cooking demonstrations, shamrock smoothies sponsored by Robeks, bring a friend day and Family Bingo. If commission members have any free time that week and would like to volunteer for any of the activities please let me know. Our 2nd Annual Bunny Breakfast will take place on Saturday, April 9th- volunteer signups to follow.

We have launched a new column in the Newtown Bee, "Bee Centered at the NCC". It is my hope that this weekly article will help increase exposure for our programs

This past monday we held a Free Blood Pressure Screening Clinic for the community we had over 25 participants.

Locker Room upgrades have started with the installation of one shower door as a test. We have received a sample of the shower head and given approval of those units to be ordered. Due to rising inflation the cost of the plumbing materials has increased but labor costs have stayed the same. We are investigating an interior tub liner to be placed over the tile to create a lip over the shower door. We are still on target to have this work completed early march.

We are currently investigating the installation of a bathroom in the Activity Room that will help support our childcare programs and afterschool programs without utilizing the Locker Rooms. This project is estimated at around 18-20K.

Next month we will launch our new homeschool program in collaboration with UNITY WESTERN CT homeschool group. We will host a variety of programs and swim sessions on Fridays. Each participant will be required to purchase.

### **Aquatics Update**

We are still currently without an Aquatics Director. The winter session closes out next week and we closed the session with 237 participants among all Aquatics Programs and bringing in \$31,266.62 in revenue. Spring registration has started on Monday and we currently have 139 participants enrolled. Our Sunday evening Kayak program continues to be a success and we have decided to run a second session. Wave Yoga our paddleboard Yoga class is back for the winter and will run until April.

Summer Camp Planning is underway and registration will open the first week of March. We are currently accepting applications for counselors, counselors in training and mentors. Last week the Race 4 Chase MOU signing was held at the Community Center and the Community Center

will once again be hosting the Youth Triathlon program for the third summer. The program will run from June 27th and the finale will be held at Camp Sloper on August 6th.

**Grant Awards**

The Community Center has been awarded a \$2,000.00 grant from the Savings Bank of Danbury to assist with scholarships to the center. Fairfield County Giving Day will take place with online giving on February 24th. The Friends of the Community Center will be raising funds to support our scholarship program.